

- 3. (Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 4 and polynucleotides that hybridize thereto under stringent conditions, wherein the SMRT co-repressor comprises a repression domain having
- a) less than about 83% identity with a Sin3A interaction domain of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 255 to 312 of SEQ ID NO: 11;
- b) less than about 57% identity with repression domain 1 of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 1 to 312 of SEQ ID NO: 11;
- c) less than about 66% identity with a SANT domain of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 312 to 668 of SEQ ID NO: 11; or
- d) less than about 30% identity with repression domain 2 of N-CoR set forth as amino acids 736 to 1031 of SEQ ID NO: 11.
- 4. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a member of a family of silencing mediators of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor (SMRT), or an isoform or peptide portion thereof (collectively, a SMRT co-repressor), or an isolated polynucleotide complementary thereto, wherein said SMRT co-repressor is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors and wherein the SMRT co-repressor comprises an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 5 or conservative variations thereof.
- 5. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a member of a family of silencing mediators of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor (SMRT), or an isoform or peptide portion thereof (collectively, a SMRT co-repressor), or an isolated polynucleotide complementary thereto, wherein said SMRT co-repressor is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, and wherein said co-repressor is encoded by a polynucleotide which hybridizes under stringent conditions with SEQ ID NO: 4.
- 6. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a member of a family of silencing mediators of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor (SMRT), or an isoform or peptide portion ther of (collectively, a SMRT co-repressor), or an isolated

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polynucleotide complementary thereto, wher in said SMRT co-repressor is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, wherein said co-repressor has at least 80% sequence identity with SEQ ID NO:5.

- 9. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a member of a family of silencing mediators of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor (SMRT), or an isoform or peptide portion thereof (collectively, a SMRT co-repressor), or an isolated polynucleotide complementary thereto, wherein said SMRT co-repressor is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, and wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 7 or conservative variations thereof.
- 10. (Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 9, which has a nucleotide sequence substantially the same as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 6.
- 12. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a member of a family of silencing mediators of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor (SMRT), or an isoform or peptide portion thereof (collectively, a SMRT co-repressor), or an isolated polynucleotide complementary thereto, wherein said SMRT co-repressor is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, and wherein said polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 9 or conservative variations thereof.
- 13. (Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 12, which has a nucleotide sequence substantially the same as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 8.
- 14. (Amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding a member of a family of silencing mediators of retinoic acid receptor and thyroid hormone receptor (SMRT), or an isoform or peptide portion th reof (collectively, a SMRT co-repressor), or an isolated

polynucleotide complementary thereto, wherein said SMRT co-repressor is capable of mediating the transcriptional silencing of at least one member of the steroid/thyroid hormone superfamily of receptors, and wherein said polynucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence having at least 80% sequence identity with a polynucleotide selected from the group consisting of:

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- (a) nucleotides 1 to 3094 of SEQ ID NO: 4;
- (b) nucleotides 1 to 3718 of SEQ ID NO: 6;
- (c) nucleotides 1/to 2801 of SEQ ID NO: 8; and
- (d) polynucleotides hybridizing under stringent conditions to (a), (b), or (c), provided that the polynucleotide does not contain a sequence identical to SEQ ID

NO: 11.

16. (Amended) A polynucleotide according to claim 14, wherein said polynucleotide is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) nucleotides 1 to 3094 of SEQ ID NO: 4;
- (b) nucleotides 1 to 3718 of SEQ ID NO: 6;
- (c) nucleotides/1 to 2801 of SEQ ID NO: 8; and
- (d) polynucleotides hybridizing under stringent conditions to (a), (b), or (c).
- 17. (Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 10, comprising nucleotides 1 to 8388 of SEQ ID NO: 6.
- 18. (Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 7, comprising nucleotides 1 to 8561 of SEQ ID NO: 4.
- 19. (Amended) The polynucleotide of claim 4, which is operably linked to a second nucleotide sequence.

21. (Amended) A vector comprising the polynucleotide of claim 4.

22. (Amended) A host cell containing the polynucleotide of claim 4.

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23. (Amend d) An isolated oligonucleotide, comprising at least 15 nucleotides that can hybridize specifically to the polynucleotide of claim 4, but neither to a polynucleotide encoding SEQ ID NO: 11 nor to a polynucleotide encoding an amino acid sequence consisting of amino acids 1031 to 2517 of SEQ ID NO: 5.

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38. (New) A polynucleotide of claim 13, wherein said polynucleotide comprises nucleotides 1 to 7465 of SEQ ID NO: 8.

Please cancel non-elected claims 26-37 without prejudice.